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USU Student Chapter of AIS Recognized as Best New Student Chapter of 2011

By Paul Lewis Siddoway



A new student club at the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business has been recognized by a global organization as its Best New Student Chapter in 2011.

In the fall of 2010, students at Utah State University founded a student chapter of the Association for Information Systems (AIS), a global professional organization for research, teaching, practice, and study of information systems.

Kathy Chudoba, an associate professor in the Management Information Systems Department, accepted the award for the best new chapter on behalf of the USU AIS chapter and Robert Hayden, the chapter's faculty advisor, at the International Conference on Information Systems held in Shanghai, China, in December 2011.

Clayton Fielding, a senior in the MIS department and the current USU AIS president, said the USU AIS chapter submitted a report in the spring of 2011 of its activities for their first academic year, detailing the results of its plans to help students gain knowledge, get connected, and get employed. Among other events, Clayton said the USU AIS chapter has a special Partners In Business session with speakers brought in to talk to MIS students, which was one reason the chapter was selected for the award.

The organization is for all USU undergraduate or graduate students interested in technology, Clayton said. The USU AIS chapter has MIS students, as well as computer science and computer engineering majors. Clayton said their vision is to know about the next best technology and be a resource for students who are trying to stay up to date with the newest tools. The chapter meets every Thursday throughout the semester, and membership in the USU AIS chapter is \$10 each academic year.

He said the chapter has also branched out to other student organizations, like the Society for Human Resource Management and the Huntsman School's Business Council.

The Huntsman School of Business emphasizes the importance of entrepreneurial thinking and Clayton said that many of the club's activities, such as teaching students how to build their own business websites, have been centered on encouraging entrepreneurs.

Aside from assisting USU students, Clayton said the chapter is also helping the Brigham Young University chapter plan the global 2012 Leadership Conference and Student Competition, which will be held April 26 through 28 in Provo.

Those interested in USU AIS, may visit its website at huntsman.usu.edu/ais for more information.